The Bill was referred to a joint Committee of the Parliament for examination. The Joint Committee of Parliament has since presented its Report to Lok Sabha on 23.05.2006, which was also laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on the same day. No precise time frame can be indicated at this stage regarding its consideration in the Parliament.

Cash incentives for girl child

68. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to counter the growing menace of female foeticide and discrimination against women, Government plan to start a scheme by which parents will be given cash incentives for taking care of their girl child;

(b) if so, whether her Ministry is considering a proposal under which poor families will be given money for certain milestones in their daughters lives including sending her to school, regular check up and ensuring that she passes school exams;

(c) if so, by what time the scheme is likely to be implemented: and

(d) to what extent it has achieved its desired results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Working Group on "Development of Children" for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) has been constituted by the Planning Commission in April 2006. This Working Group under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development and other experts will review the existing approach and programmes for children and suggest suitable initiatives and programmes for the survival, protection, welfare and development of children including the girl child. The deliberations of these Working Groups will serve as an input into the Steering Committee Report of the Planning Commission. The recommendations of the Steering Committee would form the basis for the programmes and schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in Eleventh Plan.